

**Upper Paxton Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Monthly Meeting
October 8, 2014**

Those in attendance: Ron Hepner, John Orr, and Robert Stoner, Supervisors; Betty Warfel, Secretary/Treasurer; Peter Howland, Esquire; Luanna Zimmerman, Manager; and William Burch.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hepner at 7:00 p.m. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Public Comments: None.

Approval of Minutes and Financial Report: Minutes of the September 10th monthly meeting and the September 24th workshop meeting were reviewed by the Supervisors. Robert Stoner made a motion to approve the minutes of the September monthly and workshop meetings. Treasurer Warfel presented a monthly financial report and list of bills for payment. Upon review of these documents, John Orr made a motion to pay the bills and approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Second by Robert Stoner. With all in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

1. John Orr outlined items to be included in the fall newsletter. Ron Hepner stated that we are moving forward on preparation of the newsletter.
2. John Orr reported that a nutrient management technician from the Dauphin County Conservation District made a site visit to Michele Erdman's neighboring property to make a determination whether a management plan would need to be prepared for the animals. No one was at home and informational materials were left on the property. No call back has been received in response from the property owner. Ron Hepner and Manager Zimmerman prepared a letter to the property owner requesting a meeting to discuss possible zoning code violations and actions needed to bring matters into compliance. If a meeting is arranged, the Township Zoning Officer will also attend.
3. Supervisors reviewed estimates received for removal of debris at the compost center. Zaeger Brothers, of Middletown, would charge \$5,500 and would require the Township to provide a loader. W. W. Pallet, of Elizabethville, would charge \$5,000 and the Township would not need to provide a loader or an operator. Both companies would remove the debris. Following discussion, Robert Stoner made a motion to accept W.W. Pallet's bid to clear debris from the compost center. Second by Ron Hepner. All in favor, motion carried. Luanna Zimmerman will make arrangements to have W.W. Pallet perform this service before the end of October.
4. The Board proceeded to review the proposed Final Subdivision Plans for Aaron and John King and Dauphin Meadows. Both sets of plans have been approved by the Dauphin County Planning Committee. Bill Burch explained the minor changes which had been made to the King Plan. Although the Township requires public sewer and water be included in all proposed Subdivisions for approval, these plans are in an agricultural area and no public utilities are currently available. John Orr made a motion

to approve the Aaron and John King Final Subdivision Plan and the Dauphin Meadows Final Subdivision Plan. Second by Robert Stoner. All in favor, motion carried.

5. Discussion ensued regarding the purchase of truck tires. The possibility of purchasing retread tires in order to save money was considered. Robert Stoner made a motion to purchase two new winter tires for the Roadmaster's truck at a cost of \$380 each from Bastian tires and transferring the cost from reserve funds. Ron Hepner seconded the motion. With all in favor, motion carried.

New Business

1. Supervisors reviewed a proposed ordinance provided by Scott Isenberg and Mark Dreher outlining additional safeguards and criteria for a special exception for a kennel use. The document would create and expand definitions. Board members and Attorney Howland will review the document and discuss it further at a later date.

2. Treasurer Warfel provided notification received from the Department of the Auditor General advising that the Commonwealth's 2014 state aid allocation supporting the Volunteer Fire Relief Association is \$25,539.61. Ron Hepner made a motion to split the allocation with 80/20 percent respectively to the Millersburg Fire Company Relief Association and the Millersburg Area Ambulance Relief Association pending verification that the Ambulance Relief Association have a viable manner in which to spend the funds. Second by Robert Stoner. Following further discussion, Hepner withdrew this motion. This item was tabled until further discussion with Vanessa Snyder and Gary Ibberson. Funds will be distributed within the sixty day period following receipt of the funds.

3. Manager Zimmerman has received a complaint with respect to four-wheelers using the emergency access road off Goodling Road. The possibility of posting signs to prohibit motor vehicles from using the roadway except under emergency circumstances were discussed. Enforcement of issuing violations and fines were also discussed. Adoption of an ordinance would be required in order to penalize violators. Supervisors will continue to discuss the matter and are looking into a solution for this issue.

4. Attorney Howland reported that he has advised the bankruptcy attorney in the matter of the burned out property at 108 Maple Street that the Township has an interest in having the matter move forward because the property is deemed as a nuisance under the Township code. There is nothing the Township can legally do to bring the property into compliance because the matter is in the bankruptcy court. However, progress is being made in the matter.

5. Supervisors received correspondence from Chris McGann, of Millersburg Borough, requesting that the Borough be allowed to purchase road salt on an as-needed basis for the 2014-2015 winter weather season. The Township's Costars contract lists the cost for salt for the upcoming winter as remaining the same as in the previous year's agreement. Ron Hepner made a motion to keep the price for winter materials provided to Millersburg Borough and Gratz Borough remain the same for the 2014-2015 winter season. Second by John Orr. All in favor, motion carried.

6. A 2015 budget preparation meeting was scheduled for October 28th at 8:00 a.m. The proposed budget will be reviewed at the November 12th monthly meeting and advertised for adoption at the December 10th monthly meeting.

7. Luanna Zimmerman, Tax Collector, has requested that she be exonerated from collecting the sum of \$6.61 for the fire tax from the 2014 August Interim tax bill 20144242096 for Douglas Moran. Following review of documentation, John Orr moved to exonerate Luanna Zimmerman, Tax Collector, from collecting the \$6.61 fire tax on the Moran property. Second by Ron Hepner. With all in favor, motion carried.

8. Supervisors discussed hiring a fifth on-call employee for snow plowing duties. Following discussion of various options, Robert Stoner moved to advertise for snow plow drivers, CDL preferred, in order to develop a list of on-call drivers. Second by Ron Hepner. All in favor, motion carried. An advertisement will be prepared for placement in the Upper Dauphin Sentinel.

9. Office employees requested that the stove be removed from the kitchen in order to provide space for a table for documents and file space. The stove cannot be removed because the road crew uses it to prepare food when there is a large snow event.

10. John Orr requested that correspondence be prepared and sent to our State legislator expressing the Board's opposition to Senate Bill 1023.

11. Attorney Howland reported that Frank Clarke, Esquire, has advised that the Millersburg School Board may reconsider its decision not to participate in the Dauphin County Land Bank. Howland also advised that under the terms of the land bank agreement, the Township would be required to assume some obligations, i.e., the responsibility for maintaining any renovated property. More research will be required prior to entering into the land bank agreement.

12. Pete Howland also advised that upon review of the PA One Call materials provided to him by the Supervisors, he is of the opinion that spending money for additional options offered by the program would not be in the Township's best interest.

13. Treasurer Warfel reported that SEO Brian McFeaters is charging the Township fees on services he has provided without collecting money from the property owner. The Township's policy is to require the property owner to pay the fee prior to services being performed. Correspondence will be prepared to McFeaters stating that fees for services must be paid prior to the services being performed.

Public Comments: None.

With no further business to be discussed, Ron Hepner moved to adjourn. Second by Robert Stoner. All in favor, meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty A. Warfel,
Secretary